SOUTH COVINGTON & CINCINNATI STREET RAILWAY COMPANY, ET AL. *v.* CITY OF NEWPORT, KENTUCKY.

APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY.

No. 203. Argued April 13, 1922.—Decided May 15, 1922.

The bill alleged that the plaintiffs were corporations operating electric street cars and distributing electric current under perpetual franchises in the city; that under supervision and direction of the city authorities they constructed a high tension wire to obtain necessary additional current from another company; that afterwards the city council by resolution directed speedy removal of the wire, declaring it dangerous to life and property, contrary to the fact, and that, unless restrained, the city would forcibly remove and destroy it, thereby interfering with the operation of plaintiffs' railway, lighting and power systems, and causing them irreparable damage, in violation of their rights under the Contract Clause of the Constitution and the due process clause of the Fourteenth